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 --This is a continuation of copending International Application PCT/GB01/01452 having
 an international filing date of 30 March 2001.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 4-8, 10, 12, 17, 18, 20, 22-25, 28-30, 33, 35, 42-45 and 49-53 as
 follows:

- A2
3. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
 - a first network interface connectable to a first communications network for receiving said data
 representing said requests for said audio/video material items, and
 - a second network interface connectable to a second communications network for
 communicating said items of audio/video material.
4. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
 first network interface is arranged to operate in accordance with a data communications network
 standard such as Ethernet, RS 322 or RS 422 or the like.
5. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said
 second network interface is arranged to operate in accordance with the Serial Digital Interface
 (SDI) or the Serial Digital Transport Interface (SDTI).
6. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
 data representing requests for audio/video material items includes meta data indicative of the
 audio/video material items.
7. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said
 meta data is at least one of UMID, tape ID and time codes, and a Unique Material Reference
 Number, identifying the material items.

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 follows:

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3. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
 - a first network interface connectable to a first communications network for receiving said data
 representing said requests for said audio/video material items, and
 - a second network interface connectable to a second communications network for
 communicating said items of audio/video material.
4. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
 first network interface is arranged to operate in accordance with a data communications network
 standard such as Ethernet, RS 322 or RS 422 or the like.
5. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said
 second network interface is arranged to operate in accordance with the Serial Digital Interface
 (SDI) or the Serial Digital Transport Interface (SDTI).
6. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
 data representing requests for audio/video material items includes meta data indicative of the
 audio/video material items.
7. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said
 meta data is at least one of UMID, tape ID and time codes, and a Unique Material Reference
 Number, identifying the material items.

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8. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said reproducing apparatus comprises a plurality of audio/video recording/reproducing apparatus each of which is coupled to said control processor via a local data bus.

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10. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, comprising - a display device which is arranged in operation to display images representative of said audio/video material items present on said recording medium.

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12. (Amended) An audio/video reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said control processor is arranged to generate data representing a material identifier for each of said audio/video material items, from data recorded with said audio/video material items on said recording medium.

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17. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in Claims 15, wherein said sample images are represented by a substantially reduced amount of data in comparison to said images represented by said video signal.

18. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, comprising - a reproduction processor which is arranged in operation to receive a recording medium on which said video signals are recorded and to reproduce said video signals from said recording medium.

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20. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, comprising - a display device for displaying said sample images.

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22. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, comprising - a communications processor which is arranged in operation to communicate said sample images.

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A7 23. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal by forming a histogram of colour components of said video image and determining a rate of change of said colour components.

24. (Amended) A video processing apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal from motion vectors of image components of said video image signal.

25. (Amended) An editing system having a database connected to a communications channel and a video processor as claimed in claim 22, connected to said communications channel via the communications processor, said communications processor being arranged in operation to communicate said sample images to said database, in which said sample images are stored.

AS 28. (Amended) An audio processing apparatus as claimed in claim 26, comprising - a reproduction processor which is arranged in operation to receive a recording medium on which said audio signals are recorded and to reproduce said audio signals from said recording medium.

29. (Amended) An audio processing apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said content information generator is arranged in operation to generate, for each of said sample images a material identification representative of a location on said recording medium where the audio signals corresponding to said content data are recorded.

30. (Amended) An audio processing apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said content data is representative of text corresponding to the content of the speech.

A9 33. An audio processing apparatus as claimed in claim 26, comprising - a communications processor which is arranged in operation to communicate said content data.

A10 35. An audio/video processing apparatus comprising

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- a video processing apparatus comprising
- an activity detector which is arranged in operation to receive said video signals and to generate an activity signal indicative of an amount of activity within the images represented by the video signal, and
- an image generator coupled to the activity detector which is arranged in operation to receive said video signal and said activity signal and to generate sample images at temporal positions within said video signal, which temporal positions are determined from said activity signal; and
- an audio processing apparatus comprising
 - a speech analysis processor which is arranged in operation to generate speech data identifying speech detected within said audio signals,
 - an activity processor coupled to said speech analysis processor and arranged in operation to generate an activity signal in response to said speech data, and
 - a content information generator, coupled to said activity processor and said speech analysis processor and arranged in operation to generate data representing the content of said speech at temporal positions within said audio signal determined by said activity signal.

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42. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein said second network interface is arranged to operate in accordance with the Serial Digital Interface (SDI) or the Serial Digital Transport Interface (SDTI).

43. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said meta data includes at least one of UMID, tape ID and time codes, and a Unique Material Reference Number, identifying the material items.

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44. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said meta data includes sample images representing the content of the audio/video material items at sample temporal positions within said audio/video material items.

45. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said recording medium includes said meta data describing the content of the audio/video material items recorded on to said recording medium, and said ingestion processor is arranged in operation to reproduce said meta data and to communicate said meta data via said network to said data base, said data base operating to receive and to store said meta data.

49. (Amended) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded onto a data processor configures the data processor to operate as an audio/video reproducing apparatus according to claim 1.

50. (Amended) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the data processor to perform the method according to claim 14.

51. (Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in claim 49.

52. (Amended) A signal representing audio and/or video material produced by the an audio/video reproducing apparatus according to claim 1.

53. (Amended) A data carrier on which is recorded data representing audio and/or video material produced by the an audio/video reproducing apparatus according to claim 1.

✓ Cancel claims 54-58.

Add the following new claims 59-77:

--59. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded onto a data processor configures the data processor to operate as a video processing apparatus according to claim 15.--

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--60. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded onto a data processor configures the data processor to operate as an audio processing apparatus according to claim 26.--

--61. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded onto a data processor configures the data processor to operate as an editing system according to claim 38.--

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--62. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the data processor to perform the method according to claim 36.--

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--63. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the data processor to perform the method according to claim 37.--

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--64. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the data processor to perform the method according to claim 46.--

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--65. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in claim 50.--

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--66. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in claim 59.--

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